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COMIX PLUGOLA

EL VIBORA 110, your window into the underground psyche of Spain, is $7 from J. M. Berengueur, Plaza Beatas 3, Barcelona, Spain.*

David Nadel's NEANDERTHAL TIMES 1 is 50¢/st from Comix Wave, Box 7081, Berkeley, CA 94707.

If any of you comic historians would like a nice flat set of the COMIX WAVE NEWSLETTERS to date, send me a check for $32.50 (postage and handling included).

JAKA'S STORY continues in CEREBIS 120. A lot of dressing, undressing, and rainwater in that one. Nice issue. Aardvark-Vanaheim, POB 1674, Station C, Kitchener, Ontario, Canada N2G 4R2.

Fan-Atic Press has come of age under Allen Freeman and will soon be doing regular sized comic books. SLAM BANG proved a success and some of the recent books I have received from Allen are filled with impressive newcomers. I enjoyed Cary Lee Baker's VIDEO BLUES 1 [$1.75 PP.], THE ANARCHY OF KILLER CAIN [$2 pp), ALIEN BONDAGE [great sex art by Lee Burks--Age statement required on most ug and newave books, over 18 . $3.25 pp.] The CAPTAIN OPTIMIST series is written by T. M. Maple and drawn by Allen Freeman. I have 2 issues and have seen the cover ad for a fourth. $2.25 pp on those. SLAM BANG 26 [see illo] has a nice horror cover by Plastic Man artist Hilary Barta. *I have done a piece on Hilary's series, but am holding it up for later publication because I don't have all the information in yet.*

Once you get the comic habit, it's hard to break and those who leave often come back. Two of these are Dan *Book of Art* Taylor and Jamie *Bill Shut* Alder. Dan returns with a mini NEWAVE SHORTOONZ 1. 50¢/stamp from him at 1833 Guntle Road, New Lebanon, OH 45345. Dan is working on a new issue of FRIED BRAINS for CW. Alder's latest is INDUSTRIAL TOILET PAPER 3 [$1.75 PP. 24816 Aden Ave., Newhall, CA 91321.] Bob X, Mike Urban, Mike Roden, & others feature in ITP 3.

Probably the longest lasting high school cartooning group, Randy Paske's gang is still at it. Latest mini from him is Gary Fields' DOG COMIX 2. 50¢/stamp. The fattest mini-comic I've seen yet is HSC's MISC! 28. Huge!. Cover by Matt Feazell. If you want to find out why "high school is the tenth level of hell," get one of these. $3.25 pp. 656 Birch Lane, Gilbert, MN 55741.

Quentina De Cat and Quentin Lee have made a documentary film about Telegraph Avenue appropriately called TELEGRAPH. It was shown in Berkeley, May 8, and is likely to make its way onto the video circuit before long, so look for it. This is *The 20th Anniversary of the People's Park War* so there is a lot of rhetoric floating about. A Catholic group drove a large trailor onto the park a week ago and opened a People's Cafe to feed the homeless. It was still there this morning (May 16, 1989). The university wants the cafe moved three miles away. They want to protect all those well-to-do students from the likes of the poor and downtrodden who lost their jobs and homes under Reaganism.

WEIRDO 25 is out from Last Gasp. Lots of new stuff, including a rather mellow graphic rap from Crumb [see illos].

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I WAKE UP EVERY MORNING AND THANK MY LUCKY STARS I DON'T HAVE TO GO TO A FUCKIN' JOB!!
HO HUM—TEN O'CLOCK— GUESS I'LL MOSEY OVER TO MY STUDIO....

Bill Mauldin

Several of Bill Mauldin's postwar editorial drawings showed up in his FBI dossier because they attacked the methods of the House Committee on Un-American Activities. This cartoon appears in "Back Home," one of his three books that were chosen by the Book-of-the-Month Club.

Bill Mauldin told Herbert Mitgang that Mitgang's article in The New Yorker on FBI dossiers resulted in this drawing.

Ever wonder why there have been so few postage stamps with authors on them? Well, there was a Steinbeck stamp, but it didn't come easy.

Herbert Mitgang took advantage of the Freedom of Information Act and secured the FBI files on numerous American writers, playwrights, poets, and historians, discovering in the process that John Edgar Hoover had been keeping tabs on nearly anyone who had ever had a thought in the United States. So that's okay, huh, National Security and all that? Perhaps, but *just having an FBI file symbolizes guilt of some kind to most people, particularly those doing the hiring in this country and hundreds of people lost their jobs and were blacklisted because some anonymous informant told one of Hoover's anonymous informants that he or she was a member of this or that Communist Front organization.* Just because Hoover didn't like Elwyn Brooks White's comments in a New Yorker column does not make White a subversive. It just makes him another of a long list of people who had an aversion to Hoover's particular form of subversion and blackmail, which continued with impunity under a number of presidents.

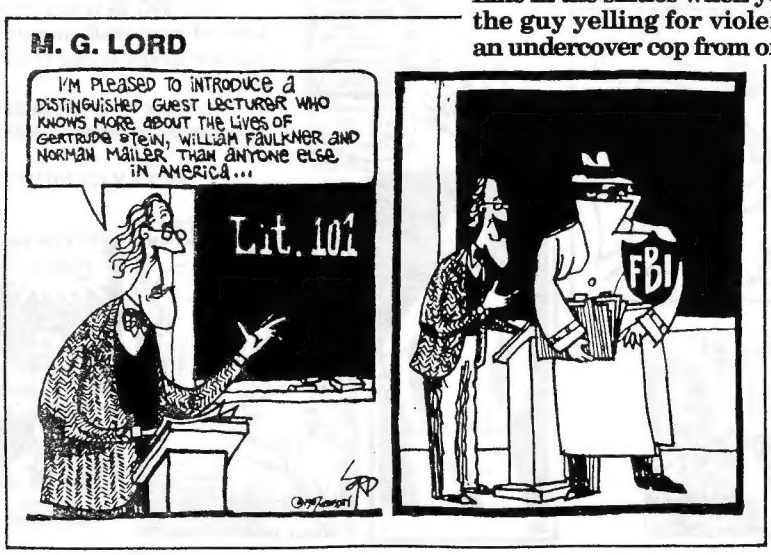
No evidence was ever found that proved any of the major writers' organizations in this country were ever fronts for anything other than the writers in them who were concerned about such things as protecting their copyrights. The only infiltration of the ranks of writers seems to have been by the FBI, so we ought to refer to these organizations as FBI fronts, huh? Like in the sixties when you knew the guy yelling for violence was an undercover cop from one of the dozen or so clandestine organizations which infiltrated every student group from SDS to SNCC.

U.S. Postal Service

Despite the fact that the Army denied John Steinbeck a commission as a lieutenant during World War II because of his FBI dossier, he was honored in 1979 with a postage stamp.

What the FBI did throughout the forties and fifties was assassinate character right and left. If you said Hoover sucked, he set up a file on you and if a name check was done as it always is in the case of federal employment, the fact that you had a file kept you from getting the position. Neat, huh? Class maintenance in America. Hoover was suspicious of all writers and intellectuals, so all had files and even when this whole practice was called into question in the seventies, the files were neither corrected nor destroyed. Hey, if they had been you wouldn't get *anything* from a Freedom of Information request, right? Mitgang's book lays the whole rotten scene out for the reader. Hoover was treating patriots like cartoonist Bill Mauldin as though they were traitors! When Rex Stout made the FBI a villain in THE DOORBELL RINGS for keeping all those blackmail files, Hoover tried to stop the libraries from shelving the book.

DANGEROUS DOSSIERS is out in paperback this month, so you can check it out for yourself. It's always a good idea to keep an eye on those organizations which devote so much time keeping their eyes on you. C. G.


M. G. LORD
I'M PLEASED TO INTRODUCE A DISTINGUISHED GUEST LECTURER WHO KNOWS MORE ABOUT THE LIVES OF GERTRUDE STEIN, WILLIAM FAULKNER AND NORMAN MAILER THAN ANYONE ELSE IN AMERICA...
Lit. 101
FBI